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10/564,099

01/09/2006

Gautier Louchart

0563-1068

9712

466 7590 07/24/2008

YOUNG & THOMPSON
209 Madison Street
Suite 500
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

BUI, HUNG S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2841

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/24/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/564,099 | Applicant(s) LOUCHART, GAUTIER | |
| | Examiner HUNG S. BUI | Art Unit 2841 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/09/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in 0308963 on 07/23/2003.

Oath/Declaration

2. The oath/declaration filed on 01/09/2006 is acceptable.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The IDS filed on 01/09/2006 have been considered and made of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 7-9, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takeuchi [US 6,816,381].

Regarding claim 7, Takeuchi discloses a metal housing (figure 1, column 1, lines 28-30), particularly a housing (figure 1) intended to contain electronic components (14, 50, figure 1) therein, comprising a side wall (30a, 30b, figure 1) furnished with a ledge (32, figure 1) having a bore (34, figure 1) to receive a fixing screw (24, figure 1),

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characterized in that the side wall has, at that bore, a recessed area (see a pace disposed at the corner of the upper casing 30, figure 1) whose concavity is oriented toward the outside of the housing, the recessed zone being suitable for allowing a discharge of any metal chips toward the outside of the housing when the fixing screw is screwed in (the housing is formed of a metal, as well known in the art, it should provide a grounding when the metal upper casing connects to the lower metal casing by the screw), the ledge being intended to receive the screw overhanging the recessed zone.

Regarding claim 8, Takeuchi discloses the side wall being substantially flat and in that the overhanging ledge does not cross the plane of the wall (see figure 1).

Regarding claims 9 and 14, Takeuchi discloses that side wall, being substantially flat and in that the overhanging ledge, is substantially perpendicular to the plane of the wall (see figure 1).

Regarding claim 12, Takeuchi disclose the housing having a cap (40, figure 1), enclosed the printed circuit board (14, figure 1) including component (50, figure 1) thereon, the peripheral edge of the printed circuit board is sandwiched between the cap (40, figure 1) and the ledge (32, figure 1) intended to receive the fixing screw, the latter traversing the printed circuit board.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 10-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi.

Regarding claims 10 and 13, Takeuchi discloses the side wall is substantially flat (see figure 1).

Takeuchi discloses the instant claimed invention except for the recess zone having an inclined surface relative to the plane of the side wall.

Lewis discloses a housing having a recess zone (a recess zone creates by a side wall 40 and a ledge area with a bore 18, disposed in a figure 1), wherein the recess zone having an inclined surface (polygonal side wall 40, figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the inclined sidewall design of Lewis in Takeuchi, for the purpose of providing rigidity to the housing.

Regarding claim 11, Takeuchi disclose the instant claimed invention except for the inclined surface being connected to the overhanging ledge by a portion of wall substantially parallel to the side wall.

Lewis appears to disclose the inclined surface of the side wall being stopped at a top of the bore of the ledge (see figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a partial portion which is parallel to the side wall of the housing of Takeuchi, as suggested by Lewis, for the purpose of facilitating assembly of the housing such as to fix the screw into the bore of the ledge.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Pate et al. [US 4,083,465] disclose retainer clip and synthetic resin box; and
- Bossenmaier [US 4,929,137] discloses safety arrangement for proving the unauthorized opening of a housing.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A. Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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